GROSS MARGARET A
77 STATE 215719

UNCLASSIFIED

98 R

UNCLASSIFIED
PAGE 01 STATE 215719
ORIGIN EA-12
INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 H-02 SSO-00 SS-15 NSCE-00 PRS-01
/031 R
DRAFTED BY EA K:JSBOARDMAN:JCM
APPROVED BY EA/K - MR. MAYHEW
----------022832

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/HR
0902237 BY BAFlack DATE 2/12/80

0 0823467 SEP 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE
UNCLAS STATE 215719
E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PDIP, KS, US
SUBJECT: O'NEILL REMARKS ON PAK TONG-SON
FOLLOWING IS TRANSCRIPT OF O'NEILL - CAPUTO REMARKS ON PAK TONG-SON TAKEN FROM THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD OF SEPTEMBER 7.
QUOTE
MR. O'NEILL. MR. SPEAKER, EACH OF US WHO SERVES HERE KNOWS THAT A CLOUD HANGS OVER CONGRESS. ALLEGATIONS, RUMORS AND INNUENDOS OF WRONGDOING INVOLVING MEMBERS OF CONGRESS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA THREATEN TO ERODE PUBLIC CONFIDENCE IN THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH OF GOVERNMENT. AND THAT PUBLIC CONFIDENCE IS ESSENTIAL TO THE OPERATION OF OUR SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT. THE CLOUD MUST BE REMOVED. OUR NATION'S MENTAL AND ECONOMIC HEALTH DEPENDS ON IT.
FOR OUR OWN PART, THE HOUSE HAS DIRECTED THE COMMITTEE ON
UNCLASSIFIED
UNCLASSIFIED
PAGE 02 STATE 215719
STANDARDS OF OFFICIAL CONDUCT TO PURSUE A THOROUGH INVESTIGATION OF POSSIBLE WRONGDOING BY HOUSE MEMBERS. THE SPECIAL COUNSEL TO THE COMMITTEE HAS BEEN GRANTED COMPLETE INDEPENDENCE TO PROCEED AS HE SEES FIT. LET THE CHIPS FALL WHERE THEY MAY, LET NO STONE REMAIN UNTURNED IN ORDER THAT WE MAY REMOVE ANY CLOUD OF SUSPICION. UNFORTUNATELY. THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA DOES NOT SEEM TO SHARE OUR DESIRE TO PUT THIS MATTER TO AN END. TODAY THE INDIVIDUAL ALLEGED TO HAVE BEEN THE CENTRAL FIGURE IN KOREAN INFLUENCE PEDDLING--A MAN WHO HAS BEEN INDICTED ON 36 FELONY COUNTS, REMAINS AT LARGE IN THAT NATION. RECORDS OF OBVIOUS RELEVANCE TO THE INVESTIGATION AND THE IMPORTANT KNOWLEDGE OF KOREAN NATIONALS ARE BEING WITHHELD.
THE ATTITUDE BEING TAKEN BY THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA CAN ONLY STRAIN ITS RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES. DOUBTS AS TO THE CONTINUED ADVISABILITY OF OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA ARE BEING EXPRESSED ALL ACROSS AMERICA. OUR ALLIANCE CANNOT THRIVE UNDER THESE CONDITIONS.

DECLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

WHATEVER THE FACTS MAY BE, THEY WILL ULTIMATELY COME OUT. THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WILL NOT TOLERATE SUPPRESSION AND COVERUP. I HAVE NO DESIRE TO EMBARRASS OR TO INFRINGE UPON THE SOVEREIGNTY OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA. RATHER, I ASK FOR THE HELP OF A GREAT ALLY. COOPERATION HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE HALLMARK OF OUR RELATIONS WITH KOREA. LET COOPERATION IN THE INVESTIGATION BE A SYMBOL OF THE CONTINUED FLOURISHING OF OUR ALLIANCE.

MR. CAPUTO. MR. SPEAKER, WILL THE GENTLEMAN YIELD?

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

MR. O'NEILL. IF I HAVE ANY TIME LEFT, I WILL BE GLAD TO YIELD.

MR. CAPUTO. MR. SPEAKER, I WAS GOING TO INQUIRE IF THE GENTLEMAN HAD ANY THOUGHTS ABOUT LEGISLATIVE REMEDIES FOR THE PROBLEM THAT THE GENTLEMAN IDENTIFIES: NAMELY, THE LACK OF COOPERATION BY THE KOREAN GOVERNMENT. FOR EXAMPLE, IS THERE SOMETHING WE CAN DO WITH THE BUDGET RESOLUTION BEFORE THE HOUSE THIS WEEK?

MR. O'NEILL. MY PERSONAL FEELING IS THAT THERE IS NOTHING WE CAN DO WITH REGARD TO THE BUDGET RESOLUTION. ANY RESTRICTIONS ADDED TO THAT RESOLUTION WOULD NOT TECHNICALLY HOLD UP ANY MONEY.

NO. 1, KOREA HAS ALWAYS BEEN AN ALLY OF AMERICA. THOUSANDS OF OUR BOYS OFFERED THEIR LIVES OVER THERE. MANY MORE WERE WOUNDED. I HAVE FORGOTTEN THE EXACT FIGURE. BUT THROUGHOUT THE YEARS WE HAVE EXPENDED ABOUT DOLS 30 BILLION IN VARIOUS PROGRAMS OVER THERE. FOR WHAT PURPOSE? WHY? TO MAINTAIN THE PEACE IN NORTHEAST ASIA. WE ARE GOING TO REMOVE MOST OF OUR TROOPS FROM THERE. THERE HAVE BEEN CONFERENCES WITH OUR STATE DEPARTMENT PEOPLE. MR. VANCE AND OTHERS, WITH THE SOUTH KOREANS. WE KNOW THAT NEGOTIATIONS HAVE TAKEN PLACE. WE KNOW THAT JAPAN IS DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE ENTIRE SITUATION AS AN ALLY OF OURS IN THAT SECTION OF THE WORLD.

I THINK TAKING PRECIPITOUS ACTION NOW TO CUT PROGRAMS TO SOUTH KOREA WOULD BE THE WRONG THING TO DO. AS SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE, I HAVE TAKEN THE WELL TODAY TO ASK THE SOUTH KOREANS TO TURN OVER RELEVANT DOCUMENTS AND ANY OTHER INFORMATION THE MAN HIMSELF WHO HAS BEEN ALLEGED

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

TO BE THE PERSON THAT WAS INVOLVED MIGHT CONTRIBUTE TO A FULL AIRING OF THIS MATTER.

I THINK WE OUGHT TO WAIT FOR A RESPONSE FROM SOUTH KOREA. I SURELY WOULD HOPE THAT THEY WOULD RESPOND FAVORABLY, BECAUSE I AM SURE THAT I EXPRESS THE TENOR AND THE WILL OF ALL OF THE MEMBERS OF THIS CONGRESS WHEN I MAKE THIS APPEAL.

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

MR. CAPUTO. MR. SPEAKER, IF THE GENTLEMAN WILL YEILD FURTHER, I WOULD LIKE TO EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF LEGISLATIVE TREATMENT. I SHARE THE GENTLEMAN'S VIEW THAT THE NATIONAL SECURITY INTERESTS OF THE UNITED STATES AND ITS ALLIES IN NORTHEAST ASIA NEED NOT BE RECONSIDERED AT THIS TIME. THOSE ISSUES CAN BE RAISED IN OTHER CONTEXTS. SO APART FROM DEFENSE ISSUES, WE KNOW WE SPEND ABOUT DOLS 110 MILLION A YEAR IN PREFERENTIAL PUBLIC LAW 480 SUPPORT OF WHEAT, COTTON, AND RICE PROGRAMS FOR SOUTH KOREA. SOUTH KOREA IS A COUNTRY WITH A ROBUST ECONOMY, A RELATIVELY HIGH PER CAPITA INCOME, AND RELATIVELY LITTLE STARVATION. DOES THE GENTLEMAN THINK WE COULD CONSIDER SUSPENDING BUDGET AUTHORITY TO THEM?
MR. O'NEILL. MR. SPEAKER, I WOULD BE HAPPY TO FOILOW THE RECOMMENDATIONS DEVELOPED BY THE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE. I AM NOT ABLE NOW TO GIVE A RESPONSE TO A QUESTION OF THAT NATURE. IT NEVER EVEN OCCURRED TO ME.
MR. CAPUTO. MR. SPEAKER, IF THE GENTLEMAN WILL YIELD FURTHER, THEN THE GENTLEMAN HAS AN OPEN MIND ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF ADJUSTING BUDGET AUTHORITY FOR NONDEFENSE SOUTH KOREA PROGRAMS?
UNCLASSIFIED
UNCLASSIFIED
PAGE 05 STATE 215719
MR. O'NEILL. I HAVE AN OPEN MIND AND WOULD BE HAPPY TO FOLLOW THE THOUGHTS AND DESIRES AND THE INTELLIGENCE AND THE REPORT OF OUR COMMITTEE.
MR. CAPUTO. MR. SPEAKER, IF THE GENTLEMAN WILL YEILD FURTHER, MIGHT I ASK ONE LAST QUESTION. WOULD THE GENTLEMAN'S REMARKS ABOUT....
MR. O'NEILL. I WOULD BE GLAD TO GIVE THE GENTLEMAN A COPY.
MR. CAPUTO. I WAS MERELY ASKING, WERE THE GENTLEMAN'S OPENING COMMENTS INSTIGATED IN ANY WAY BY THE INDICTMENT THAT WAS UNSEALED YESTERDAY CITING SEVERAL HIGH-LEVEL KOREAN OFFICIALS AS UNINDICTED COCONSPIRATORS FOR 36 SEPARATE OFFENSES?
MR. O'NEILL. BEFORE I HAD KNOWN THE INDICTMENT HAD TAKEN PLACE, IT WAS MY INTENT TO TAKE THE FLOOR.
MR. CAPUTO. MR. SPEAKER, IF THE GENTLEMAN WILL YIELD FURTHER, THE ALLEGED COMPLICITY OF SOME HIGH-LEVEL KOREAN OFFICIALS IN CRIMES AGAINST THE UNITED STATES SUBSTANTIALLY CHANGES OUR ATTITUDE ON WHAT TO DO ABOUT INADEQUATE KOREAN COOPERATION WITH OUR INVESTIGATION. DOES NOT THE INDICTMENT OF KOREAN OFFICIALS MAKE A MATERIAL DIFFERENCE? WHAT WE HAVE JUST LEARNED IN THE LAST 24 HOURS....
MR. O'NEILL. WOULD THAT CHANGE IT? I WOULD SAY WE WOULD HAVE TO OBTAIN THE MORAL JUDGMENT OF THAT FROM OUR STATE DEPARTMENT. NOBODY IS MORE UPSET ABOUT THE KOREAN SITUATION THAN I AM.

DECLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

I AM SURE THE GENTLEMAN, MORE THAN ANYBODY ELSE, IS AWARE
UNCLASSIFIED
UNCLASSIFIED
PAGE 06 STATE 215719
OF THE UNFAIR STORIES THAT APPEARED IN THE PAPER ABOUT ME IN THE LAST COUPLE OF WEEKS. I WANT TO ASSURE HIM--AND HE WAS THE INTERROGATOR--THAT REGARDLESS OF WHO THE WITNESS WAS. THAT NEVER, NEVER WAS TONG SUN PARK EVER USING MY OFFICE. I ONLY RECALL SEEING HIM ONCE MYSELF IN MY OFFICE. MY STAFF HAS TOLD ME THAT HE WAS PROBABLY THERE TWO OR THREE TIMES. THE GENTLEMAN CAN BE ASSURED THAT WE HAVE ASKED ALL OF THEM.
WHEN THE GENTLEMAN WENT INTO THIS AND ASKED SO MANY QUESTIONS, AS I UNDERSTAND IT--AND I ONLY UNDERSTAND IT, BECAUSE I HAVE NOT SEEN ANY DOCUMENT, AND I ONLY KNOW WHAT HAS BEEN LEAKED TO THE PRESS, SO THAT I HAVE NOT GOT ANY KNOWLEDGE OF IT EXCEPT SECONDHAND--THE GENTLEMAN WAS THERE; HE WAS THE QUESTIONER. I DO NOT KNOW WHETHER HE QUESTIONED WHETHER JOHN RHODES' OFFICE WAS USED, OR BOB MICHEL'S OFFICE WAS USED, OR WHETHER ANY OF THE OLD LEADERSHIP WAS INVOLVED.
I DO KNOW THAT THE GENTLEMAN ASKED ABOUT CARL ALBERT AND HE ASKED ABOUT TIP O'NEILL. I COULD ASK, WHY DID THE GENTLEMAN NOT GO INTO OTHERS? WHY WAS HE PARTISAN ABOUT IT?
MR. CAPUTO. I THINK WE HAVE WANDERED OFF MY POINT?
MR. O'NEILL. I JUST WANT THE GENTLEMAN TO KNOW THAT I WAS THE VICTIM OF A TERRIFIC SMEAR. ALL I HAVE IS MY REPUTATION. I HAVE BEEN IN PUBLIC LIFE FOR 43 YEARS, AND THE ONLY ONE THING I WANT TO LEAVE WITH IS THE SATISFACTION THAT I HAVE DONE A GOOD JOB; THAT I LEAVE A HERITAGE TO MY FAMILY, AND I DO NOT WANT ANYBODY TEARING MY REPUTATION APART. UNQUOTE VANCE
UNCLASSIFIED
UNCLASSIFIED
PAGE 07 STATE 215719
UNCLASSIFIED

RELEASED